Application No.:   09/874,717
Amendment Dated: March 6, 2006
Reply to Office Action of: January 5, 2006

__INTHESPECIFICATION:__

     Please amend the text that appears from page 4, line 10 to page 5, line 11, by rewriting the same as follows:

     -- Another prior art usage monitor is "Watcha!", as described at

~~http://homepage1.nifty.com/abby/PalmTech/Watcha2e/EasyGoing2.html~~

www.hompage1.nifty.com/abby/PalmTech/Watch2e/EasyGoing2.html. This software runs on

the palmtop computer from Palm Inc., and monitors application usage in terms of duration and

battery usage. The "Watcha!" software collects this data for the user of the palmtop computer

and has no facility for having a server collect data from a plurality of palmtop computers, nor

does it have any means for sharing the data with other computing devices.

     Another prior art usage monitor is "Application Usage Hack", found at

www.benc.hr/appusage.htm ~~http://www.benc.hr/appusage.htm~~. This software monitors

application usage for a palmtop computer in terms of count and duration, and can upload the

collected data to a host computer in the form of a CVS file. Once in the host computer, the user

can translate the CVS file into other formats, including spreadsheets. The overall process of

collecting usage data on the host computer requires the user to manipulate the data. Hence, the

tabulation of data is not automatic. Also, there is no provision for sharing the data with a server

in order to accumulate data from a plurality of electronic devices.

     Another prior art usage monitor is "WorldCharts", found at the

www.worldcharts.com ~~http://www.worldcharts.com~~. This is a service that tracks the popularity

of applications and various types of content (i.e., music and movies). However, it relies on users

sending votes via email or entering them on a web page. Hence, this software is not automatic,

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requiring lots of user intervention. Overall results are based on ratings from users, rather than

from actual usage data, making the results very subjective. --

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